



INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES DIRECTORATE

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MEDIA STATEMENT

Infrastructure Support for Regional Integration to Promote Regional Integration and Universal Access to Infrastructure by SADC Nationals and Stakeholders

**Directorate of Infrastructure and Services
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INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Sectors Involved:

- **Energy,**
- **Tourism,**
- **Transport,**
- **Communications & ICT,**
- **Meteorology ,and**
- **Water)**

1 OBJECTIVES OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

The Infrastructure and Services (I&S) Directorate's primary function is to facilitate and coordinate the transformation of the region into an integrated economy by promoting the provision of adequate, interconnected and efficient regional infrastructure. The regional infrastructure integration programme entails: Transport, Communications and Meteorology, Energy, Tourism, and Water.

ENERGY PROGRAMME

Objective of the Energy Programme

The overall Energy Sector objective, conceived within the context of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP), is 'to ensure the availability of sufficient, least-cost energy services that will assist in the attainment of economic efficiency and the eradication of poverty, whilst ensuring the environmentally sustainable use of energy resources'. This is as espoused by the SADC Energy Protocol which was signed in 1996 and is now in force. This objective is being implemented within the context of a regional SADC Energy Activity Plan which emphasizes the development of energy in support of regional integration and socio-economic development and that it should complement national policies of Member States. The broad pillars of the Sector Programme comprise Energy Trade; Information and Experience Exchange; Training and Organisational Capacity Building as well as Investment and Funding for various projects.

Priorities of the Energy Sector,

As approved by the SADC Ministers Responsible for Energy and endorsed by ICM are:

- i) Overcoming the Diminished SADC Power Surplus Capacity;
- ii) Putting in place appropriate measures for energy regulation in the SADC region;
- iii) Exploring other sources of renewable energy to be accessible to urban, but largely rural areas given that the SADC region's access to energy is an average of 35%; and includes, among others, developing a Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Energy Access; Programme for Biomass Energy Conservation (ProBEC); Training Programme on Rural Energy Planning and Environmental Management (REPEM); monitoring and providing policy guidance to the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) Programme; and the Regional Electricity Regulators Association (RERA) Programme and coordinating the activities of the Regional Biofuels Taskforce;

TOURISM PROGRAMME

Objectives of the Tourism Sector

In the context of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and the National Tourism Sector Strategic Plans of the Member States, the overall objective of tourism is ***“to grow tourism and increase tourism investment in the region”***. Key challenges for tourism growth and Investment are around the total “packaged” tourism product and services necessary for growth of the sector.

Priority Areas for Tourism Sector

Priorities of the Tourism Programme will focus on continued implementation of activities previously approved by ICM and Council as well as some new programmes including the following:

- Research: Tourism Information and Statistics
- Community Based Tourism
- Regional Communication Strategy: Marketing and Branding the region
- Development of the SADC UNIVISA Framework
- Hotel Grading and Classification

As part of the implementation of the Tourism Sector Programme, the Regional Tourism Organisation of Southern Africa has been teaming up with SADC Member States to showcase the region at international tourism fairs, on the basis of which SADC is now renowned as a destination of choice from source markets. Through these endeavours, SADC is poised to increase its global tourism market share as well as receipts from source markets. We are also, as a region, in the process negotiating with emerging markets to have them accord SADC a ***“Preferred Destination Status”***.

TRANSPORT PROGRAMME

Objectives of the Transport Sector

The transport sector entails road transport, rail transport, ports, maritime and inland waterways, as well as air transport. The main areas of intervention in this area include transport infrastructure development, harmonisation of policies, capacity building, and transport and trade facilitation. Transport infrastructure development also seeks to support the development of the Free Trade Area, followed by a Customs Union and ultimately a Common Market in SADC.

The Transport Sector main objective is provide adequate, integrated, safe and efficient infrastructure services in road, railways, civil aviation and maritime, ports and inland-waterways services.

Priority Areas for Transport Sector

Priorities of the Transport Programme will focus on continued implementation of activities previously approved by ICM and Council as well as some new programmes including the following:

- i) Review Port Security arrangements in the region and develop plans for Port Security audits.
- ii) Finalise proposals for the implementation of harmonised road user charges as a cost recovery measure in road transport.
- iii) Facilitate the implementation of harmonised third party motor vehicle insurance system.
- iv) Carry-out needs assessment of transport infrastructure in Angola and the DRC, with emphasis on the Regional Trunk Road Network.
- v) Implement facilitation of projects along priority regional corridors
- vi) Implementation of vehicle overload control regimes.
- vii) Review effectiveness of the bilateral agreements in road transport with a view to finalize a multilateral agreement.
- viii) Liberalization of air and transport services.

- ix) Implement the UACC Study.
- x) Mobilize resources for the implementation of the COSCAP-SADC Project as well as CASP-SADC Project.
- xi) Harmonize Ports Charges in the SADC Region.
- xii) Review Ports Concessioning.
- xiii) Construction of the Kazungula Bridge
- xiv) Road Safety Programme
- xv) Vehicle Standards and Regulations
- xvi) Sustainability of Regional Bodies including Corridor Management Structures
- xvii) Implementation of the SADC Protocol on Transport, Communications and Meteorology
- xviii) Implementation of declarations and action plans of AU Ministers responsible for transport in air transport, railway transport, maritime, ports and inland waterways transport.

Achievements in the Transport Sector

A number of achievements have been made by the Sector, and these include:

- Implementation of road, rail, border posts and port projects within the North South Corridor on the framework of the Tripartite, and more projects are expected to be developed and implemented this year through the Tripartite Trust Account, supported by the “**Friends of the Tripartite**”.
- Completion of the Studies and Design of the Road and Rail projects involving Angola, DRC and Zambia, most of which are now being implemented, with the support of the African Union;
- Finalisation of the Nacala Corridors Road Project, with the support of the African Development Bank (ADB), and a number of such roads are being implemented;
- Rehabilitation of airports in SADC, which include Mauritius, Luanda, Benguela, Maputo, Beira, Nampula, Gaborone, Victoria Falls and Livingstone.
- Gradual Opening of the SADC Skies in line with the SADC and Tripartite Open Skies Programme/Yamoussoukro Decision, which has brought about increased frequencies in SADC City to City pairs;
- Preparatory work for the Shire – Zambezi Waterway and the Kazungula Bridge..

COMMUNICATIONS AND METEOROLOGY PROGRAMME

Objectives of the COMMUNICATIONS (Telecoms /ICT and Postal) Programme

The overall objective for the Communications (Telecommunications/ICT and Postal) Sector is conceived within the context of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP), is to 'establish communications systems that are fully integrated, efficient and cost effective to meet the requirements and to ensure connectivity to the citizens of the region that will ensure regional integration and Poverty alleviation.' a fully integrated communications infrastructure/network will serve the ideals of a single Economic space in the SADC region with free movement of goods, services and capital. The citizens will have full access to communications services exploiting the advantages and opportunities provided by modern technology in particular the information and communications technology (ICT). The availability of communications networks characterized by a high degree of integration and interconnectivity is a guarantee for intra-regional and interregional trade. Communications services including the advent of advanced services are without doubt critical for remote business transactions including e commerce, which would facilitate trade within the region and beyond. The use of communications and more recently information communications technologies (ICT) has gained prominence and importance as an integrating tool for the continent and also in promoting the socio economic development of the region. The objectives are espoused by the Communications Chapter of the SADC Protocol on Transport, Communications and Meteorology which was signed in 1996 in Maseru Lesotho.

Priority Areas for Communications Sector

The Priority Areas of Communications as approved by the Meetings of Ministers Responsible for Telecommunications, Postal and ICT are as follows:

- i) Implementation of the SADC Regional Information Infrastructure (SRII)
- ii) Implementation of the SADC Digital Terrestrial Television Migration Programme
- iii) Development and implementation of the e SADC initiative
- iv) Policy and Regulatory Framework in view of convergence
- v) Facilitation of a SADC Home and away roaming
- vi) Implementation of the postal services sector Regional Policy and Regulatory Framework for the Development of Telecommunications and ICT
- vii) Coordination of SADC Positions on international Postal, Telecommunications and ICT initiatives (ITU, UPU, PAPU, ATU, etc);

- viii) Regional Project on development of a sub-regional road transport network within the SADC Region to ensure efficiency in the Postal System.

Key Achievements in the Area of ICT

In the area of ICT, a number of achievements, which include:

- Progress with development of the Regional Road Map and National Road Map for Digital Television Migration, which has reached the stage of implementation. The cut-off date is June, 2015, as set by the International Telecommunications Union. However, some Member States are having challenges in mobilizing resources to procure the necessary equipment and systems that should be in place by the cut-over date. A Project Management Office in Gaborone, Botswana is assisting Member States in implementation of the DTT Road Map.
- Good progress has been made with harmonization of ICT policies in the region, including Cyber-Security which has become rampant as cyber crime;
- Good progress has been made with implementation of the SADC **“Home and Away”** which seek to reduce the cost of roaming among SADC Member States, and also creating a framework for subscribers with pre-paid lines to access roaming facilities.

Objectives of the Meteorology Programme

The objective for the Meteorological Sector is to establish systems and infrastructure that are fully integrated, efficient and cost effective to meet the requirements of the users, and to minimise adverse effects associated with the severe weather and climate phenomena. This objective is espoused in the Meteorology Chapter of the SADC Protocol on Transport Communications and Meteorology.

Priority Areas of the Meteorology Sector

The Priority areas for Meteorology Sector as approved by the Meetings of Ministers Responsible for Transport and Meteorology are as follows

- i) Implementation of the Meteorological Association of Southern Africa (MASA) Strategic Plan

- ii) Implementation of EU funded African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development (AMESD) Project which will be succeeded by the Monitoring of the Environment and Security in Africa (MESA) Project
- iii) Strengthening of capacity of National Meteorology Services in the SADC Region including human resource development.
- iv) Facilitate regional and international cooperation in support of MASA in collaboration with the WMO and National Meteorological Services (NMSs)
- v) Strengthen meteorological data communication and exchange
- vi) Develop realistic regional future climate change scenarios as basis for adaptation to climate change and mitigation against adverse/extreme effects of weather related natural disasters
- vii) Convening of workshops on climate change scenarios at regional and national level including NMSs
- viii) Expansion of the Severe Weather forecast demonstration Project (SWFD) to other SADC Member States

Climate Services Centre (CSC)

The purpose of the CSC is to ensure that a subregional mechanism for monitoring and predicting extremes in climate condition is operational. The CSC carries its mandate through development, generation and dissemination of meteorological, other environmental and hydro-meteorological products. The products have also made valuable contribution to increasing the region's disaster preparedness for and efficient management of weather and climate-induced calamities. The CSC has continued to provide service and outreach products in weather and climate monitoring and prediction for the benefit of the SADC Member States and Regional and International Institutions. The products and services benefit in particular those in Disaster Risk Reduction, Health, and Early Warning for Food Security, Water Management and Power Utilities Sectors.

Priority Areas of CSC

The Priority areas for CSC as approved by the Meetings of Ministers Responsible for Transport and Meteorology are as follows

- Reliable climate information, prediction and application products and services for socio-economic development.
- Capacity Building Workshops and SARCOF.

- Trained cadres of producers and users of climate information and prediction decision tools.
- Better tailor-made decision tools for climate-sensitive socio-economic sectors

As a flagship programme, the Climate Services Centre undertakes seasonal rainfall forecasts for the period October – March, and this process which involves all Member States and related stakeholders is taking place in Windhoek, Namibia. This process assists especially farmers and government to plan their appropriate timings for agricultural activities as well as making inputs into vulnerability assessments especially where there are food shortfalls.

WATER PROGRAMME

Objectives of the Water Programme

The SADC region has defined its water programme as detailed in the revised Regional Strategic Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management and Development (RSAP-IWRMD). These are based on the priorities identified in the RISDP as approved by Council. The following are the strategic objectives of the RSAP - IWRMD:

- i) Maintain and sustain an enabling environment for regional water resources development and management;
- ii) Provide a framework for sustainable, effective and efficient planning and management of shared river basins at regional and related national levels;
- iii) Promote and support strategic infrastructure development for regional integration, socio-economic development and poverty alleviation
- v) Develop, promote and facilitate best practices regarding effective participation by various individual and institutional stakeholders in water resource development and management, including women, youth and other disadvantaged groups;
- vi) Build and strengthen human and institutional capacity for sustainable management of water resources at basin, national and regional level

Priority Areas the Water Sector

The following are the priority areas of focus for the Water Programme, which priorities form the basis for the development of the water sector annual plans and budgets.

- a) Resource mobilization for the implementation of the specific projects in revised Regional Strategic Action Plan RSAP2 with support of the Resource Mobilization Unit
- b) Facilitation of the strengthening of the newly established river basin organizations and establishment of new ones;
- c) Monitor the implementation of various RSAP 2 Projects including:
 - i) SADC HYCOS Phase2 Project
 - ii) Groundwater Management Program
Groundwater and Drought Management Project
Hydro-geological Mapping Project
 - iii) Regional Strategic Water Infrastructure Program (RSWIDP)
 - iv) Regional Water Supply and Sanitation Program
 - v) Implementation of the Protocol on shared Water Courses
 - vi) Promotion of Public participation in Water resources Development and Management
 - vii) Regional Water Policy and Strategy
 - viii) Skills Training for Policy makers, Managers and Practitioners
 - ix) Water Net Programme
 - x) Institutional Strengthening of the RBOs
 - xi) Dam Safety, Synchronisation and Emergency Operation
 - xii) Economic Accounting of Water Use Project

xiii Rovuma/Ruvuma, Save & Buzi Shared Watercourses
Support Project

Achievements in the Water Sector

The SADC water sector has been deemed to be exemplary in terms of focus and achievements, as a result of which many entities from the other Regional Economic Communities continue to undertake study visits to SADC to appreciate our programmes, state of implementation, strategies, methodologies, stakeholder participation, among others. Of particular note entails the following achievements:

- Development of River Basin Organisations and setting up the necessary structures that implement programmes of economic gain. The Zambezi Basin, whose Secretariat will be based in Harare is an example of such creative institutions.
- Water infrastructure projects have been implemented through support from the German govt, British Government and the African Development Bank;
- SADC has successfully implemented the SADC Hydrological Observation System (HYCOS), which enables Member States to undertake hydrological observation on the water tables and other related ground water information;
- SADC has successfully developed a Water Policy and Strategy, whose key principles and tenets are being domesticated in the Water Policy and Strategy documents at the level of Member States.
- Through the SADC Water-net Programme, based at the University of Zimbabwe, the region has trained more than 600 SADC water experts in terms of Degrees and Masters Degrees which have enabled the region to be reasonably capacitated with regard to water practitioners.

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

Implementation of the SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan

Objectives of the Master Plan

The primary objectives of the SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan are twofold:

- i) To identify projects for the 2012 – 2027 period that promote regional integration, address poverty and address supply side constraints to the different industries and business stakeholders.
- ii) Provide consensus among Member States on a compendium of projects, which once approved, will constitute the sole basis for infrastructure investment, based on which Member States shall engage in joint planning, resource mobilization and investment in infrastructure.

The SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan was developed and approved by SADC Heads of States and Government at their meeting held in Maputo in August, 2012.

Based on that approval, the rolling out of infrastructure projects elaborated by the Master Plan has commenced. In order to implement the plan, the priority activity entails preparing projects to ensure that there is a pipeline of bankable projects for investors and financiers to take on board and commit. To this end, SADC Has created a Project Preparation and Development facility (PPDF), which is assisting Member States in preparing projects for investment. SADC is also accessing other Project and Preparation Facilities available to push through as many projects as possible to bankability.

SADC Declaration on Infrastructure for Approval by Summit in August 2014

To facilitate the implementation of an effective structure for the implementation of infrastructure development in the region, the SADC region has developed a Summit Declaration on Infrastructure, which is a sign of commitment and ownership by SADC Heads of States to collectively implement infrastructure projects as a collective in the region. This would also open up opportunities for financing by financiers both within and outside the region. This is a landmark development for SADC and is consistent with developments elsewhere around the world.

Priorities on the Implementation of the SADC Infrastructure Master plan

- i) Conduct Consultative Meetings with the Project Teams, Project Steering Committees (PSCs), appropriate stakeholders, regional bodies and progress reports generated for consideration and guidance by Ministers.
- ii) Development, Packaging and Completion of Feasibility Studies to deliver pipeline of bankable projects;
- iii) Implementation of regional infrastructure projects within approved milestones

Current Infrastructure Projects

The region has identified some key high priority infrastructure projects for promotion and marketing with investors.

These are attached to the document